

5.0.0.0: Community Facilities & Services

Long County recognizes the importance of community facilities in enhancing residents' quality of life and economic development efforts, and will provide effective and efficient facilities as needed.

Introduction

The adequacy and availability of community facilities is a necessary part of the comprehensive planning process because of the importance of maintaining and attracting future residents, businesses and industries to the area. Growth should be managed so not to cause an undue burden on existing community facilities which would negatively impact the overall quality of life in the county. The prioritizing, scheduling and construction of community facilities should meet the needs of current and future populations and at the same time guide and direct growth in an orderly and logical manner.

The Community Facilities Element inventories the various public and semi-private facilities and services available in Long County and assesses the quality and availability of these community facilities with respect to the impact of projected population and economic growth through 2025. This section utilized population estimates and projections as well as projections of economic growth as a basis for need assessment and the development of Level of Service (LOS) Standards, where appropriate.

Community Facilities and Services Inventory

INTRODUCTION

The primary objectives of this element are to address the impact that projected population and economic growth will have on the community's services and facilities. Information categories required by Department of Community Affairs Minimum Planning Standards include:

- Transportation network
- Water supply and treatment
- Sewerage System and Wastewater Treatment
- Solid Waste Disposal
- Public Safety
- Fire Protection
- Public Health Services
- Recreation Facilities

- General Government
- Educational Facilities
- Libraries and Other Cultural Facilities

This chart lists public facilities servicing all Long County residents.

Table C-1

Jurisdiction	Water Supply	sewerage	Garbage & Trash	Storm Water	Street Repairs	Street Lights	Police Protect	Fire Protect	Elected Govt.	Zoning & Building	Real estate tax income
Ludowici	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Volunteer	Yes	No	Yes
Unincorporated areas	No	No	County	County	County	No	Sheriff	Volunteer	Yes	No	Yes

The quality and availability of community facilities, both publicly and privately operated, play a dominant role in attracting and maintaining sustainable residential, commercial, and industrial development. For this reason, capital improvements planning for community infrastructure is a vital element of the comprehensive planning process. This element provides an inventory and assessment of pertinent community facilities and services in Long County and the City of Ludowici.

A variety of community facilities and services are provided by the City of Ludowici, the Long County Board of Education, the Long County Board of Commissioners and other "constitutional officers," such as the Long County Sheriff, Tax Assessor and Magistrate Court Judge. The effectiveness of this plan relies upon cooperation among all elected bodies; however, there is no State requirement for this plan to be ratified by any other elected body other than the Ludowici City Council and the Long County Board of County Commissioners.

Transportation

An efficient transportation network is a key element in determining Long County's ability to develop. Adequate transportation facilities are necessary both for the transport of people and goods and services. The efficiency of the network has a

direct impact on land use through its ability to disperse increased traffic levels as a function of residential, commercial, and industrial development.

Existing Road Network

Roadways are classified by the U.S. Department of Transportation based on their function within the local highway network. Each major classification category is defined as follows:

1. Principal Arterials: These roads, which include interstates and rural freeways, serve substantial regional, statewide or interstate trips; connect most urban areas of 25,000 or more and virtually all urban areas of 50,000 or more; and provide an integrated network without stub connections except where geography dictates otherwise.

2. Minor Arterials: These roads form a rural network that links other cities, larger towns, and other traffic generators, capable of attracting travel over similarly long distances; links all developed areas of the state; and serve corridors with trip lengths and travel density greater than those predominantly served by rural collector or local systems. Minor arterials constitute routes whose design should be expected to provide for relatively high overall travel speeds, with minimum interference to through movement.

3. Major Collectors: These roads primarily serve the county rather than regional or state traffic. Consequently, more moderate speeds are typical. They serve any county seat or larger town not on an arterial route, and other traffic generators of equivalent intra county importance; link the latter places with nearby larger towns or cities, arterials and freeways; and serve the more important intra county travel corridors.

4. Minor Collectors: These roads also serve county-wide traffic and collect traffic from local roads and bring all developed areas within a reasonable distance of a collector road; provide service to smaller communities; and link the locally important traffic with more significant generators.

Georgia highways 57 and 38 intersect a portion of the county and are the primary arterials in Long County. Roads classified on the map are considered major county thoroughfares and serve as main transportation routes within the county and to surrounding areas. All other county or municipal roads not classified on the thoroughfare map are considered locally serving. Most of the roadway network is rural. This rural quality creates little need for intense road maintenance or expansions. The county has not had a need to conduct road paving. When major road repairs, re-surfacing or new paving is proposed the county relies on private contractors or the Georgia Department of Transportation

for project completion. Because of the infrequent need for a full time paving crew, the county saves money by outsourcing major roadwork.

Table C-2 identifies the route type and road system of the county as classified by the U.S. Department of Transportation for comparison. A significant portion of the network increased in the rural minor collector road system. These roads serve county-wide traffic and collect traffic from local roads and bring all developed areas within a reasonable distance of a collector road.

Table C-3 identifies the total mileage and paved roadways of the county. Most of the network is in the unincorporated areas. Less than 32 per cent of the county road network is paved.

Table C-2
Lane Miles by Route Type and Road System

Type Road System	1997 Mileage	1997 VMT*	2003 Mileage	2003 VMT*	% Change In VMT
Rural Principal Arterial	13.66	120935.50	41.10	141418.90	16.94%
Rural Minor Arterial	22.95	65826.00	46.88	69098.40	4.97%
Rural Major Collector	53.49	86627.00	106.22	98465.70	13.67%
Rural Minor Collector	43.59	8718.00	87.18	68328.40	683.77%
Rural Local	185.41	27201.60	371.72	39046.80	43.55%
Rural Total	319.10	309308.10	653.10	416358.20	34.61%

Source: Georgia Dept of Transportation

* VMT - Vehicle Miles Traveled is calculated by multiplying the Annual Average Daily Travel by the Section Length

Table C-3: Long County Road Network

Jurisdiction	Mileage	Paved
Long County		
State Routes	61.02	61.02
County Roads	246.60	78.43
City Streets	11.48	8.50
Total	319.10	147.98

Source: Office of Transportation Data, Georgia Department of Transportation, 2003

The Long County Road Department provides road grading and asphalt patching as a service to the residents in the unincorporated areas. The department also provides grading service on dirt roads within the City of Ludowici. However, the city conducts its own road patching through its public works department.

Despite the lack of necessity for a county paving crew, the county road department has a significant proportion of dirt roads to maintain. This is evident by the percentages shown in Table C-3. Maintaining dirt roads requires almost ten times the man-hours that paved roads require. As the number of unpaved roads increases in the county so will the budget for the road department. In order to prevent the need for higher taxes, the county should consider adopting and implementing subdivision regulations that require developers to pave the roads and streets within a subdivision. These regulations must apply to any division of land in order to prevent the creation of dirt roads.

Traffic throughout the county and the city is relatively free of congestion, which is not unusual for a predominantly rural area. However, traffic along the major arterial highways leading through the county and city is steadily increasing.

Table C-4 outlines the traffic patterns along Long County's roadways. Traffic counts along the Tattnall County line indicate sprawl growth from Tattnall County as well as that which is assumed to come from Liberty County. Traffic counts from within the city limits are indicated by the numbers within the yellow background. Traffic counts within the city are higher than in the unincorporated county as the numbers reflect both traffic passing through the city, and movement within the city.

Notice the consistent rise in traffic along the U.S. Highway #84 and #301 both inside the city and out.

Table C-4

Traffic along Long County's Major Roads

Location of Road Section	1997 Count	1998 Count	1999 Count	2000 Count	2001 Count	2002 Count	% change 1997-2002
US #84 west of Ludowici	9856	9686	12,279	11,314	11,743	11,831	20.03%
US #84 east of Ludowici	7763	7263	8422	8271	8525	8591	10.67%

US #84 E Liberty Co. Line	8043	7734	8968	8080	9607	9211	14.52%
US #301 north of Ludowici	3376	3450	4061	4071	4275	4308	27.61%
US #301 north	2923	2923	3436	3357	3496	3523	20.53%
US #301 Tattnall Co. Line	2922	2885	3496	3400	3502	3660	25.26%
GA #57 McIntosh Co. line	2035	1977	25533	2480	2246	2063	1.38%
GA #57 south of Ludowici	1845	1860	2402	2443	2639	2643	43.25%
Old Hinesville Rd NW	No data	2224	2280	1941	No Data	2003	
" " Liberty Co. Line	No data	2191	2246	2260	No Data	2170	
GA #196 Tattnall Co. Line	3971	3969	3919	4128	4346	4353	9.62%
GA #196 midway in Long Co.	2770	2656	2622	2940	3207	2977	7.47%
GA #196 Liberty Co. Line	2590	2456	2425	2643	2725	2729	5.37%
GA #144 in Ft. Stewart	2642	2646	2326	2429	2411	2430	-8.02%
US #84 west	11,323	12,154	14,754	14,414	15,186	15,300	35.12%
US #301 north	3870	4154	4689	4729	4968	5006	29.35%
GA # 57 south	4430	5493	7094	6520	6131	6409	44.67%
Old Hinesville Rd NW	2439	2577	2641	2480	2828	2810	15.21%
Macon St. south	1539	2112	No Data	2360	No Data	No Data	

Source: Georgia Dept of Transportation

Traffic congestion and traffic safety go hand in hand. As traffic counts rise so do traffic accidents. It is difficult to prevent "fender benders" in an urbanized area. However if traffic fatalities are disproportionately high, this could infer misuse of high volume transportation corridors. When improper development occurs along high volume transportation corridors traffic fatalities increase. High volume, high speed, and intense development result in traffic fatalities. Examples of such improper development along these corridors include single-family residential dwellings that front the highway.

**Table C-5
Traffic Accidents**

	Long County			Georgia Average			Comparisons	
	Traffic Deaths Injuries		Total Accidents	Traffic Deaths Injuries		Total Accidents	Traffic Accident Rate (per 10,000 drivers) Long GA	
1996	2	46	48	1582	142,890	144,472	132.8	269.3
1997	3	82	85	1584	139,400	140,984	229.6	259.8
1998	3	73	76	1580	134,770	136,350	193.5	244.1
1999	3	62	65	1514	123,588	125,102	142.0	217.3
2000	1	84	85	1549	130,608	132,157	178.8	225.5
2001	2	74	76	1656	132,305	133,961	129.6	215.5
2002	4	95	99	1531	132,623	134,154	152.9	201.7
2003	2	73	75	1610	132,879	134,489	109.8	191.6
Totals	20 (rate: 5.2)*	589	609	12,606 (rate: 2.66)*	1,069,063	1,081,669		

Source: Georgia Dept. of Transportation

* Rate per 10,000 drivers

Given the low number and consistency of the traffic accident data listed in table C-7, careless development has not become a problem. However as development increases along routes in and out of Liberty and Tattnall County, this could soon become a problem. Future land use regulations must address residential dwellings along high volume traffic corridors.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

There are no known sidewalks in Long County. There are no bicycle facilities in Long County. Two state bicycle routes (Route 85 and 35) pass near Long County but do not enter the county.

Signalization and Signage

The only signalized intersections and significant traffic signage in Long County are located within the City of Ludowici, along Georgia Highways 57 and 38. These corridors handle significant traffic volumes and represent the city's main commercial corridors. Signalization is essential at these intersections to provide an orderly flow of traffic in and out of the various commercial establishments.

Bridges

There are 9 bridges scattered throughout Long County. The county has numerous state highways and all bridges along these roads are maintained by the Georgia Department of Transportation. Bridges located along county roads are maintained by Long County.

Public Transportation

The county commission runs a public transit system that provides transportation to more than 280 users per month throughout the entire county. Operation, maintenance, administration, and capital purchases of this bus system are paid through a combination of fare revenue, county subsidy and a Federal grant administered through the Department of Transportation. At an 10 per cent subsidy per van, the county commission is providing a great service to residents at a minimal cost to tax payers.

Railroads

The rail companies provide crucial cargo transport for industries in neighboring counties. Many items and materials are too bulky or heavy to be shipped by truck and are moved by rail. Both CSX Railroad and Norfolk Southern serve Long County.

Port Facilities and Aviation

Long County is served by the following port and aviation facilities:

Water:

Navigable River: Altamaha (9 foot channel depth) with public barge dock at Brunswick (45 miles).

Seaport: Brunswick (45 miles) with maintained channel depth of 32 feet.

Seaport: Savannah (54 miles) with maintained channel depth of 42 feet.

Air:

Commercial: Brunswick (45 miles), service by ASA.

Commercial: Jacksonville, FL (121 miles), service by ASA, AirTran, American, American Eagle, Comar, Continental, Continental Express, Delta, Northwest, Southwest, United Express, US Airways, US Airways Express.

Commercial: Savannah (54 miles), service by ASA, AirTran, COExpress, Delta, Pinnacle, United Express, US Airways, US Airways Express.

Public: Jesup (11 miles), with a 5,000 feet bituminous runway, aircraft tiedown, airframe & power plant repair, hangar, lighted runway, NDB, 24-hour attendant.

Public: Walthourville (9 miles), with a 3,700 feet bituminous runway, aircraft tiedown, lighted runway, NDB, VASI, Unicom system. Wright Army Airfield at Ft. Stewart with 2 runways (5500 ft and 7000 ft) will be open by spring 2005 for both military and private use.

Water Supply and Treatment

One of the most important issues throughout the state is the availability and quality of drinking water. The incredible growth rates experienced in the state's metropolitan areas have put tremendous pressure on public drinking water sources and have depleted numerous private wells as groundwater supplies continue to decline due to drought.

The only publicly operated water system in Long County is in the City of Ludowici. The water is drawn from one main well with one 725,000 gallon per day pump. The system is supported by a back-up pump that draws from a separate well. The system also has an elevated storage capacity of 100,000 gallons. Consumption averages 320,000 gal/day with a 330,000 gal/day maximum. Storage capacity is 12s (570 ft. and 579 ft.) and pumping capacity is 600 gal/min. New withdrawals from Upper Floridan is limited to 36mgd beyond April 1997 levels

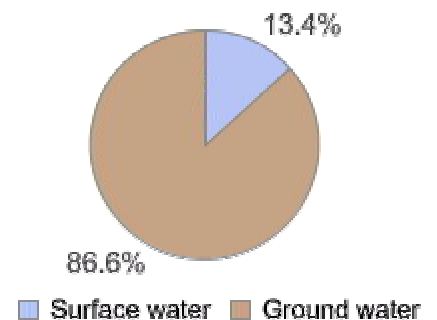
The U.S. Geological Survey compiles [National water-use estimates](#) every five years. The most recent compilation was for year 2000. The data includes water withdrawn from surface- and ground-water sources and used for various categories of water use. Fresh (non-saline) water-use estimates for Long County are presented below. Data are reported in million of gallons per day ([Mgal/d](#)).

Table C-6

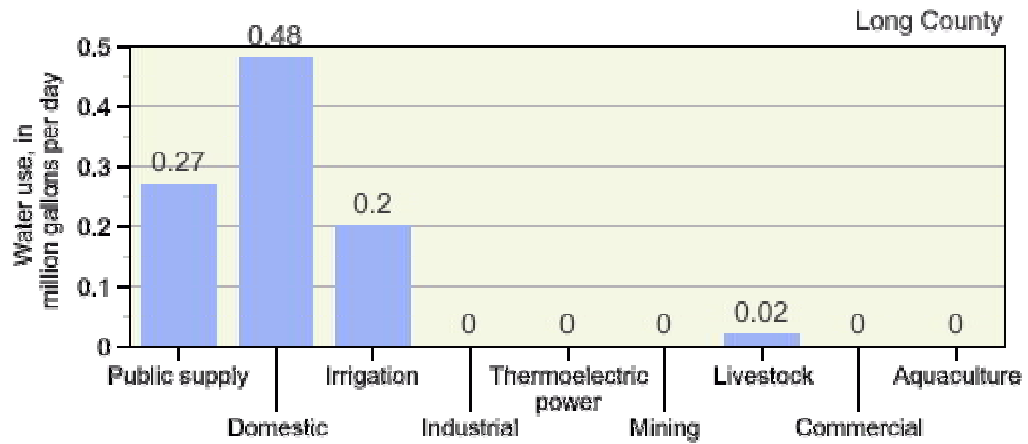
Water use in Long County

Total fresh-water use and source of water, Long County, 2000

Source	Water use, in million gallons per day	Percent of total use
Surface water	0.13	13.4%
Ground water	0.84	86.6%
Total	0.97	100.0%



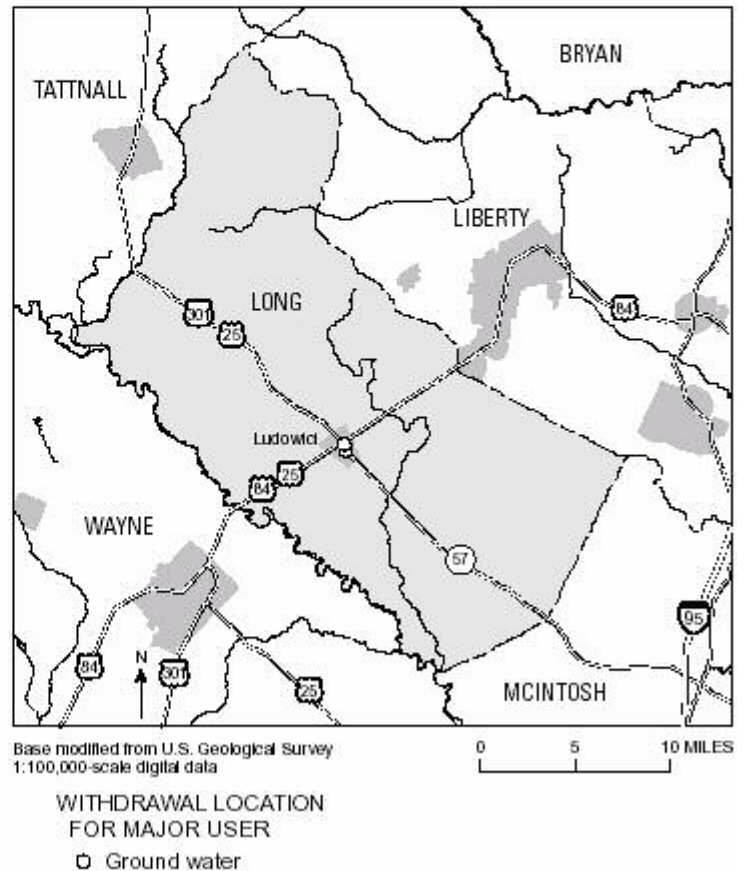
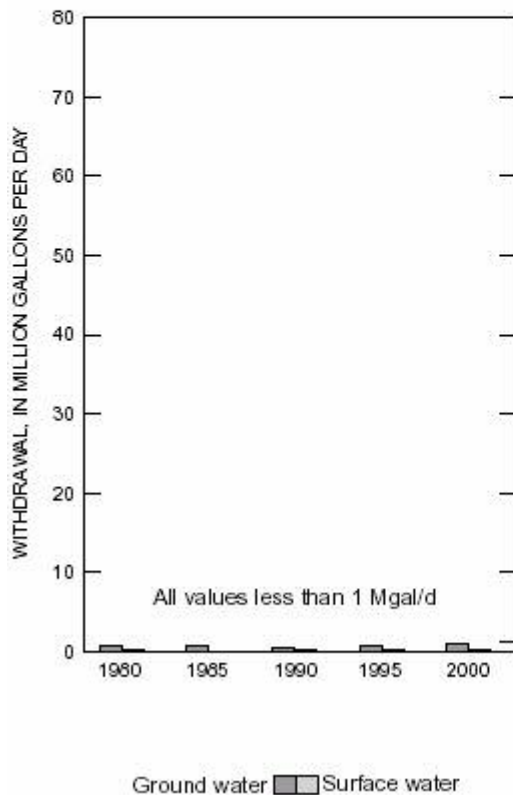
Total fresh-water use by category of use for Long County, 2000



Water use by category of use for Long County, 2000

	Public supply	Domestic	Irrigation	Industrial	Thermo-electric power	Live-stock	Mining	Com-mercial	Aqua-culture	Total
Surface water	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13
Ground water	0.27	0.48	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.84
Total	0.27	0.48	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.97

Withdrawals by Major Public Suppliers (Mgal/d):			Withdrawals by Major Industrial Groups (Mgal/d):		
NAME	GW	SW	SIC	GW	SW
City of Ludowici	0.14	0.00	None		



Sewerage System and Wastewater Treatment

Another major issue concerning the development of Long County is public sewerage systems. Long County residents rely on individual septic systems as the county does not operate a public sewerage system in the unincorporated areas. The City of Ludowici provides a public sewerage system for the residents.

The system relies on an oxidation pond. Plant capacity cannot be determined but is not currently operating at full capacity.

Table C-6

Source of Water	Number - 1990	Number - 2004
Public System	917	1440
Individual drilled well	1,474	3313
Sewage Disposal		
Public sewer	582	1440
Septic tank or cesspool	2,021	4473

Source: U.S. Census of Population and Housing , STF3a, Long County Environmental Health Dept., 2005

SEWAGE.

Oxidation ponds are used. Plant capacity cannot be accurately determined. Service available within Ludowici.

The Long County Commission must adopt building codes and subdivision regulations that provide comprehensive inspection of septic tank system construction and installation.

SOLID WASTE MANAGMENT

The County has ample disposal capacity available in adjacent Wayne County at the public landfill facility near the City of Jesup for many years to come. A landfill in Long County is not needed.

The City of Ludowici offers garbage collection to its residents. There is no capital improvements fund set aside for replacement of the collection vehicle and the cost of administration and billing is absorbed entirely by the general fund.

The Long County Commission provides garbage collection service free of charge to only the residents in the unincorporated area of the county. The majority of solid waste in Long County comes from residential use or household garbage, including paper products, plastics, glass, and aluminum. This service is delivered in the form of a communal green box collection system. Residents in the unincorporated areas of the county drop off their household refuse at unmanned collection stations where open dumpsters are provided. Because there are no

fees assessed, there is no revenue. This service is provided to only a portion of the population, but paid for by all taxpayers.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Public safety includes sheriff services, emergency medical services, and fire protection. The Long County Sheriff's Department provides police protection for all unincorporated areas of Long County. For police protection, currently there are four fulltime personnel for the city and twelve county officers. Operation, maintenance, equipment, training, and administration of the Police Department requires almost one third of the city's entire budget. The only way to expand the police department without raising taxes is to raise water, sewer, or garbage collection fees so more of the city's general revenue can go toward public safety funding.

The 1999 Crime Index rate (crimes per 1,000) for Long County was 1.5. Statewide, in 1999, the rate was 3.4. Of the total index crimes reported, 8.9 per cent were violent crimes, while 91.8 per cent were property crimes.

Table C-7

Crimes reported in Long County

Crime	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Murder	1	1	1	0	0
Rape	0	3	2	0	0
Robbery	2	3	1	5	5
Aggravated Assault	3	5	15	9	25
Burglary	82	51	87	98	84
Larceny - theft	101	87	127	96	75
Motor Vehicle thefts	12	7	13	12	9
Total	201	157	246	220	198

Source: Georgia Crime Information Center

Table C-8 on the following page provides a projection of the needed law enforcement personnel based on the population projections provided in the Population Element of this plan and established standards provided by the U.S. Department of Justice. The projections do not include the population element for the City of Ludowici. These numbers represent active duty officers and deputies and does not account for the needed administrative personnel required to support them.

Table C-8

Projected Law Enforcement Needs

Year	Long County
2005	24
2010	25
2015	26
2020	28
2025	29

Source: U.S. Dept of Justice South Atlantic State Average for cities and counties based on population projections

The Long County Sheriff's Department staff has great difficulty providing protection countywide. As development increases in the unincorporated areas of the county, crime will rise. Without an adequate size deputy force to meet the population growth, the Sheriff's Department cannot be effective in crime prevention. The Sheriff and the Long County Board of Commissioners is actively seeking methods to increase jail facility space and county coverage.

Long County has a jail facility with only an eight-inmate capacity. When the Long County Sheriff's Department or Ludowici Police Department arrests a suspected felon they must often transport the prisoner either to Liberty County, Wayne County or Tattnall for incarceration. Not only does this process involve the time and cost of transportation, the county or the city pays the host institution for the boarding of the prisoner for each day he or she is incarcerated. This drives up the budget of the Long County Sheriff's Department and the Ludowici Police Department. Building a jail facility in Long County will relieve law enforcement of these costs. However, it will cost approximately \$2,000,000 to build a new jail facility and at least \$100,000 a year to operate. Included in the cost of operation are salaries for jailers, meals for prisoners, laundry, and utilities. Expanding the existing facility to 12 will avoid extra operations cost while lessening the county's dependence on other correctional institutions.

FIRE PROTECTION

An effective fire department is a vital link in the chain of regional development, affecting insurance costs and, thus, the willingness of people and industries to settle in a given area. Fire protection is directly affected by the quality of the water system and a lack of infrastructure can severely reduce the community's ability to provide adequate fire protection.

The availability and adequacy of a water system is a determining factor in the rating given a fire department by the Insurance Services Organization (ISO). Other factors include: the size and type of buildings in a community, the presence or absence of fire alarm systems, how calls are received and handled,

whether fire fighters are paid or volunteer, whether there is a community water system, the size of water mains, and how long it takes a department to respond to an emergency call. This independent organization weighs all these factors to assign a department a rating between one and ten, where a rating of nine or ten indicates relatively little protection.

ISO ratings are not legal standards but recommendations that insurance companies can use to set fire insurance rates. However, because these ratings involve weighing several variables, comparing different communities is difficult. For instance, a rating of seven in two different communities does not mean that each is working with the same equipment under the same circumstances. Rather, one could have an adequate water system but inadequate personnel and equipment, the other, the reverse.

The ISO ratings in Long County are 5. The County is working diligently on upgrading fire protection facilities, with a new facility to be added in the Donald Community to improve the ISO rating, thus lowering their insurance premiums.

The City of Ludowici and the Long County Commission fund a joint city-county volunteer fire department. Much of the funding needed to support the volunteers comes from donations and local fundraising efforts. There are approximately 29 certified volunteers twelve of which are certified first responders. There is one station located in Ludowici and a pumper truck is parked at the Gum Branch Volunteer Fire Department in Liberty County to respond to emergencies in the northern end of Long County. The Fire Chief receives a small annual stipend from the County Commission for the time dedicated to administration of the Volunteers.

Ludowici has the most to gain from improvements to the Fire Department. Lower homeowner's insurance rates stimulate housing development growth. Improving the level of fire protection service in the city will lower the cost of housing to residents and developers. Since the city housing growth has been stagnant, this could enable a means of recovery.

Table C-9 below provides a projection of the needed professional fire fighting personnel based on the population projections provided in the Population Element of, this plan and established standards provided by the National Fire Protection Organization.

Table C-9

Projected Firefighter Needs

Year	Long County	City of Ludowici
2000	10	2
2005	11	2
2010	12	2
2015	13	2

Source: National Fire Protection Organization and Population Projections

In the unincorporated areas of the county it is difficult to make improvements to fire protection service that will substantially lower homeowner's insurance rates. However, proper use of land development regulations, such as zoning, can prevent the spread of fire from dwelling to dwelling. The predominant housing structure in the unincorporated areas of the county is the mobile home. Once a fire breaks out in a mobile home, it will be a matter of minutes before the entire structure burns to the ground. If units are spaced at an adequate distance apart, it will allow the fire department time to at least stop the fire from spreading to other homes. Also, through subdivision regulations, real estate developers can be required to lay firebreaks and dry hydrants in residential subdivisions. This will increase the level of fire protection in the unincorporated areas of the county.

HOSPITALS AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

The County's health care services and facilities are provided through a network of modern private hospitals and clinics, a coordinates system of public health clinics, and independent healthcare providers.

The Long County Commission has a Health Department for which it contributes approximately \$34,000 annually. All other funding to the Health Department is provided by the State of Georgia with some assistance from the Federal Government.

Beyond the County's Health Department, school infirmaries, and one private pharmacy, there are no other health care services available in Long County. The nearest hospitals are in Liberty County to the north, Tattnall County toward the northwest, and Wayne County to the south. From the City of Ludowici, the Liberty County Hospital in Hinesville is 15 miles, the Tattnall County Hospital in Reidsville is 45 miles, and the Wayne County Hospital in Jesup is 11 miles away. Table c.14 below describes these facilities in greater detail.

Table C-10

Health Care Facilities Surrounding Long County

Category	Liberty	Tattnall	Wayne	Area Per 1000	State Per 1000
Population	52,745	18,134	20,750		
Hospitals	1	1	1	0.031	0.026
Hospital beds	50	40	138	2.331	3.933
Nursing Homes	1	2	3	0.061	0.053
Nursing Home Beds	169	252	244	6.797	5.657

Source: State Health Planning Agency

Ludowici Medical Center offers primary medical care to the residents located in the central area of the county.

According to figures compiled by the Centers for Disease Control, 181 people died in Long County in the years 1999-2001. The county death rate was 6 per thousand people, compared with 8 per thousand people statewide.

During the same period, 47 people died from cancer. The county death rate from cancer was 1.5 per thousand people, compared with 1.7 per thousand statewide.

A reported 6 people died in motor vehicle accidents.

The average age of people living in Long County at the time of the 2000 census was 29.4, compared with 34.5 statewide and 36.2 nationwide.

The Long County Board of Commissioners has begun to provide a Volunteer Emergency Medical Service to residents in the form of ambulance service. However, this service only provides emergency medical technical assistance because the ambulance currently in use is not designed to transport personnel. The county is in dire need of an ambulance equipped to transport rescued victims. Since there are no medical facilities in Long County, the EMS service must be able to transport rescued victims to the nearest facility in another county. Most often this is the Liberty County Hospital in Hinesville.

Long County has one nursing home. Coastal Manor Nursing home is a 66 bed certified Hospital Based and/or Medicare Only Skilled Nursing Home. The facility offers care for residents in need of skilled nursing care as well as various therapies to aid their recovery. Average occupancy rate is 98%. The nursing home is a private, for-profit nursing home. Residents at the home receive care, on average, 1.36 RN hours per day, and 2.16 CNA hours per day,

which total 3.52 nursing hours per day. The national average for total nursing hours per day is 3.83 hours per day.

Long County houses a Senior Citizens Center Building in Ludowici. In 2004, the Center provided 6,716 meals in the Center and 6,280 homebound meals.

RECREATION FACILITIES

The availability of parks and recreation opportunities plays a significant role quality of life and business (re) location decisions. Passive and active recreations facilities for all age groups are essential public services. Recreation is physically and psychologically healthful, provides socially acceptable activities and improves the general quality of life. Landscaped parks and recreation areas also promote neighborhood aesthetic values. Most of the parks and recreation facilities in Long County are operated by the county recreation department, although Ludowici maintains several parks and has development plans for more.

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources has assessed the recreation needs for the counties in the State. This assessment is provided in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (S.C.O.R.P) annual report. This annual assessment not only represents an inventory of recreational facilities, it also provides future demand for recreation based on activity. Table C-11 lists the existing supply and future recreation facility needs for the entire population of Long County.

The County also needs to invest in the development of a recreation complex and to consider developing walking trails. A recreational field is currently being developed in the northern end of the county. The field will include a soccer field, shelters and fencing. A walking trail will be considered.

In the unincorporated areas of long county there are three public boat ramp facilities that provide access to the Altamaha River. These facilities are located at Beards Bluff at the north end of the county, Hughes Old River at the end of county road 126 in the north-central portion of the county, and at Morgan Lake on county road 60 just off of U.S. Highway #84 near the Wayne County line. On occasion, picnic facilities were available at each of the boat ramps. However due to vandalism, few still remain.

Table C-11

Activity	Unit	Long County	2000	2005	2010	Coastal Region
Tent Camping	Sites(s)	0	3	3	4	1
Trailer Camping	Sites(s)	0	3	4	4	97
Motor Boating	Acre(s)	0	34	40	47	0
Outdoor Swimming	Pool(s)	2	0	0	0	28
18 Hole Golf	Course(s)	0	0	0	0	1
9 Hole Golf	Course(s)	0	0	0	0	1
Baseball	Field(s)	2	1	1	1	51
Lighted Baseball	Field(s)	3	1	1	1	86
Football	Field(s)	0	1	1	1	17
Lighted Football	Field(s)	0	0	0	0	15
Tennis	Court(s)	2	2	2	2	69
Lighted Tennis	Court(s)	0	1	1	1	65
Outdoor Basketball	Court(s)	4	2	2	2	139
Bicycle Trails	Mile(s)	0	2	2	2	11
Canoe Trails	Mile(s)	0	0	0	1	0
Hiking Trails	Mile(s)	0	14	17	20	1
Horse Trails	Mile(s)	0	1	1	1	0
Interpretive Trails	Mile(s)	0	1	1	1	2
Pedestrian Trails	Mile(s)	0	0	1	1	12

Source: Dept of Natural Resources, State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The most important factor of any community facilities plan is a clear understanding of a community's general government fiscal structure and limitations. It is difficult to plan and program community facilities and services without knowing where the government revenue is coming, where it must go, and what will be left over for new programs and facilities.

General Government

Long County operates under a commission-based system of government in which five commissioners are elected to four-year terms. The Long County Courthouse located in Ludowici serves as the site for the Board of Commissioner's Office, Probate Court, Magistrate Court, Clerk of Superior Court, Local Emergency Management Office and meeting rooms. The Tax Assessor's Office, Tax Commissioner's Office is located adjacent to the Courthouse which also houses the Warren County Extension Office.

Long County collected \$2.2 million in total revenues in 1996. In 2000, the county received \$3.6 million, an increase of 66.1%. Total revenue in 2000 equaled \$350 per capita. The statewide revenue per capita for this same year was \$679.

From 1996 to 2000, own source revenues for Long County rose from \$2 million to \$3 million, an increase of 52.0%. Own source revenues include revenues from property taxes, excise and special use taxes, sales taxes, and service charges and fees. Per capita own source revenues amounted to \$290 in 2000. This compares to a statewide per capita amount of \$611.

The county collected an average of \$179 per capita in property taxes during the past five years. This amount was less than the average of \$197 per capita collected by similarly-sized counties. For the same period, the average per capita amount of county property tax collected in Georgia was \$190. On average, property taxes accounted for 64.1% of the county's own source revenue during the period of 1996 to 2000.

General operating expenditures for Long County in 1996 equaled \$2.4 million, or \$296 per capita. In 2000, general operating expenditures rose by 12.0% to \$2.7 million, which was \$264 per capita. General operating expenditures per capita for similarly-sized counties was \$431 in 2000. The statewide average was \$404 per capita during the same period.

Historically, the top three expenditure categories for counties are public safety, administration, and health and human services. In 2000, Long County spent \$653,200 or 22.9% of total county spending on public safety which includes spending for law enforcement, fire services and jails. Spending for administration totaled \$511,000, amounting to 17.9% of total expenditures. The county spent \$329,400 or 11.5% of total spending on health and human services.

From 1996 to 2000, Long County had an average of \$190,168 in long-term debt outstanding each year, resulting in an average per capita debt burden of \$21. This amount was less than the \$55 per capita average held among similarly-sized counties with outstanding debt during the period.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

The Long County Board of Education and one private school provide educational facilities in the county. There are 2 public schools serving county and municipality residents, one elementary and one high school. The elementary school houses grades K-5 and the high school serve grades 6-12.

The most recent enrollment figures are outlined in Table C-12. In 2002, total enrollment was 1967 students, representing a 5 per cent increase, and 86 high school graduates. The private school enrolled 285 students.

Table C-12
Full-Time Student Enrollments, 2000-2003

School Name	2004 Enrollment
Smiley Elementary School	649
Long County School	1420
Totals	2,069

Source: Georgia Department of Education

Table C-13

Staffing Ratios	Total Number
Teachers	119
Instructional Aides	39
Guidance Counselors	3
Librarians/Media Specialists	2
District-level Administrators	4
School-level Administrators	6

Source: www.greatschools.net

HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher education and vocational opportunities are available as follows:

- Tech. College: Altamaha at Jesup (15 miles) with 2,012 students.
- Tech. College: Savannah at Savannah (53 miles) with 3,600 students.
- 2-yr: Waycross College at Waycross (45 miles) with 900 students.
- 4-yr: Armstrong Atlantic State University at Savannah (53 miles) with 6,026 students.

- 4-yr: Savannah State University at Savannah (53 miles) with 2,560 students.
- 4-yr: Georgia Southern University at Statesboro (56 miles) with 15,075 students.

In Long County the Average Expenditure per Student (public education) was \$3,912 per student each year between 1996 and 2000. This average expenditure per student was less than the statewide average of \$5,285. Total general fund expenditures used to teach and support a student in a school system includes expenditures for instruction, media, pupil services, capital project, school food, and debt services.

Libraries and Other Cultural Facilities

Long County is a member of the Three Rivers Regional Library System. This system encompasses Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Glynn, Long, McIntosh, and Wayne County. Within the system there are a total of eight public libraries. The system employs ten full-time librarians and forty-one assistants. Library services include reference and information, bookmobile circulation, children's programs, an adult literacy program, free library cards to residents, and a collection of 286,436 books, magazines, newspapers, audio and video cassettes, and compact discs. The system receives approximately 364,340 patrons per year.

Currently, all other cultural facilities in the City of Ludowici and in the unincorporated areas of Long County are held by private organizations. There are no other publicly owned or leased cultural facilities in Long County.

5.2.0.0: Assessment

Road Network

Roadways drive the Long County economy and are considered significant as much for their economic development function as for local transport needs. At just over 54%, the county has an unacceptably high percentage of unpaved roads. Neither current nor future needs are being met with so many unpaved roads. While some roads in very low density have always been and will continue remain dirt roads, the county will need to implement projects prioritized through the years. No major problem areas were identified during the inventory as current needs are being met.

Advisory members identified a critical element to economic development efforts and public safety. As the two railroads intersect the county seat of Ludowici, an important countywide road projects would be to construct an overpass across the railroad intersections. This project supports the economic development policy of industrial park expansion and the county should work with appropriate Georgia DOT officials to complete necessary improvements.

Future land use patterns will play a significant role in the continued efficiency of the transportation network. According to the Institute of Traffic Engineers, a typical single-family detached home generates an average of 9.54 vehicle trips per day while commercial and industrial facilities generate from 20 to 2000 vehicle trips per day. In year 2000, 44.1 per cent of Long County households owned two passenger vehicles. Population growth is projected to increase through 2025, countywide housing projections, based in part on continual increases in the number of new households, are anticipated to reach 7,356 units. Given current levels of service, the projected increase in new housing may significantly impact the existing network.

The economic development policy contained in this comprehensive plan calls for significant levels of growth in manufacturing, TCP and FIRE. Increases in TCP and FIRE employment will not significantly affect the existing traffic patterns but manufacturing has the potential to alter the network. Future manufacturing sites include the Long County/Ludowici Industrial Park and other areas in the unincorporated areas identified by the county. Once water and sewer infrastructure is provided, it is likely that manufacturing plants will locate in proximity to Long County. Should that occur, Long County will need to consider the traffic implications of potentially significant truck and vehicular traffic along State Route 57 and 84.

In order to better assess the impacts of land use on the transportation network and to identify potential implementation measures to mitigate those impacts a detailed thoroughfare study and plan is needed. A thoroughfare plan can provide a much more precise assessment and identify specific needs for implementation. Long County needs to draft and adopt subdivision regulations and a form of land development regulations, such as zoning, that address traffic safety issues and limit the creation of unpaved roads for the purpose of residential development. This will reduce the need for tax increases to support the Long County Road Department.

The City of Hinesville in neighboring Liberty County has organized a Hinesville Metropolitan Planning Organization. Studies are currently underway to determine transportation and regional facility needs to accommodate future regional economic development plans. The county will need to support regional economic development efforts by the planning organization.

Pedestrian and Bicycle

Overall, there is lack of pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the county. There is a need to develop a bicycle and pedestrian plan for the area that could enhance the Wiregrass Trail. Funding could be sought to complete an inventory and assessment as well as recommendations. The county should continue applying for Transportation Enhancement grants to complete much needed pedestrian projects.

The bicycle and pedestrian plan could include recommendations for bicycle routes, including facilities along the proposed scenic byway route. In addition to identifying an internal network, the plan could examine ways to link local bicycle networks with the state system, thus providing residents with alternative transportation modes.

Bridges and Signalization

The adequacy of the overall road network is dependent on bridge maintenance and the adequacy of signalized intersections to maintain a steady traffic flow. The county continues to monitor the condition of bridges and repair them on an as needed basis. The identified improvement bridge project involves railroad-crossing improvements along State Route 57 in Ludowici.

The advisory committee did identify the need for additional signage along State Highway 84 and the need for upgraded street signs.

Public Transportation

Long County is currently able to meet demand for public transportation. With the projected growth in the seniors' population group through 2025, the county may need an additional vehicle to accommodate future demand.

The county will continue to provide public transportation to its residents and will pursue other transportation related programs through the Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act (ISTEA) to continue enhancement of the Wiregrass Trail (Georgia Hwy #57).

Railroads

Both CSX and Norfolk Southern currently provide an acceptable level of service and are expected to continue to do so. Even with the anticipated economic growth policy outlines in the Economic Development section, both rail providers have enough capacity to continue providing adequate service.

The Advisory Committee recommends a public safety improvement of constructing a bridge overpass over the railroad crossings in Ludowici.

Water Supply and Treatment

Based on population projections discussed in the Population Element of this Comprehensive Plan, community facilities and services must be assessed to determine their levels of service and ability to meet the demands of the existing and future population.

Water demand forecasts are derived from population, housing, and employment forecasts based on existing average use levels. These forecasts are based on minimal expansion of the network service area and would increase accordingly if water service were extended further into the unincorporated area.

In order for Long County to continue to attract commercial and industrial development and take full economic advantage of its Industrial Park, water and sewer services need to be completed. The provision of a comprehensive water and wastewater system is a requirement to support desired new development. Areas targeted for future industrial and commercial development will require adequate water service to attract higher density development and support more intensive land uses.

Currently, the water supply needs of the county are being met. Average and peak demand is less than half of the total permitted withdrawal, treatment, and storage capacities. Population growth is projected at 23 per cent through 2025 while housing units are anticipated to increase by approximately 2,499 units. Most of the county's housing growth is projected to be in the unincorporated areas of the

county. Given current water capacities, future growth may render it difficult to meet future demand.

Sewerage System and Wastewater Treatment

The County does not operate a public sewerage system and does not plan to provide countywide service.

Across the state, regional watershed studies and TMDL implementation plans have increasingly identified septic tanks as an increasing non-point source pollutant. The abundance of septic tanks in unincorporated areas has increased dramatically over the past twenty years as suburban development has outpaced urban development. The number and location of all of the septic tanks in the county is not precisely known, but the number of households not using a public sewerage system would indicate that there are approximately 3,000 individual septic systems (according to the number of households in Long County). This estimate illustrates the large number of unmonitored septic systems in the county, which should be cleaned out every 3-5 years to ensure proper operation. Currently there are no regulations in place to monitor the maintenance of septic systems so once a problem occurs; it is generally too late to prevent contaminants from entering the ground and surface water.

Given the increased population and housing growth projected through the planning period, the county will need to coordinate on planning for future septic service expansion.

The county should consider adopting building codes and subdivision regulations that would require comprehensive placement and inspection of septic systems.

Solid Waste Management

Long County is experiencing population growth and the County's current disposal programs and operations are adequate for meeting needs during the planning period. Collection programs in Long County are sufficient to meet the demands of residents and businesses.

A regional approach to solid waste is the only cost-effective way for rural counties to deal with the issue. A recycling program should be designed and implemented within a regional approach for handling recyclable materials. There is interest in initiating education programs for recycling as well as starting a

Clean and Beautiful and Recycling committee. There also is a need for educating businesses on waste reduction.

General Government

Government facilities are generally meeting county needs and are adequate through 2025. Population projections may justify hiring additional government employees and the county will do so if required. The County has continually renovated the courthouse in the past two decades but will need to continue renovation efforts to other governmental buildings through the planning period.

There are no planned expansions of any government facilities.

Public Safety

Law Enforcement

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Report (UCR) of 2002, national averages of rural counties for the number of sworn officers per 1,000 residents was 2.5 sworn officers per 1,000 residents. According to the staff figures for the Long County Sheriff's Department, Long County averages are currently less than one sworn officers per 1,000 residents. Although the number of officers and personnel falls below the national average, the Sheriff's Department adequately serves the existing population. Crime rates are close to half the state average and the geographic size of the area is relatively small.

Projected population growth may cause the Sheriff's Department unable to serve future populations. However, the county should support more clustered housing development as this can dramatically reduce the need for additional law enforcement.

Equipment needs will vary through the planning period. Long County may need to invest in vehicles and other equipment on a periodic basis to ensure adequate levels of service.

Fire Protection

Overall, the county's level of fire protection is adequate and is expected to remain so. The Donald Community identified the construction of a new fire station as a pressing need.

Fire protection is directly affected by the quality of the water system and a lack of infrastructure can severely reduce the community's ability to provide adequate fire protection. A high ISO rating is an indication that water system infrastructure needs to be upgraded and improved to help lower the ISO rating. Upon completion of water system upgrades, ISO ratings will begin to improve. The County should support policies to lower the ISO ratings so that residents will be better protected and industries will have more incentive to locate or expand operations in the County and municipalities.

Emergency Medical Services

The existing level of service is adequate. To improve the level of service, investment in new equipment and staff must keep pace with population growth. Long County is currently working with a regional plan with McIntosh and Tattnall counties to start and administer an Emergency 911 system.

Recreation Facilities

The National Recreation and Park Association has set a guideline level of service of 10 acres of park, recreation, or open space per 1,000 persons. Long County exceeds this standard. Nevertheless, the County should identify areas critical for open space preservation and appropriate for park development to meet increasingly growing needs and set aside for future growth and development.

The County also needs to invest in the development of a recreation complex and to consider developing walking trails. A recreational field is currently being developed in the northern end of the county. The field will include a soccer field, shelters and fencing. A walking trail will be considered.

The County also needs to invest in the development of a recreation complex and to consider developing walking trails. A recreational field is currently being developed in the northern end of the county. The field will include a soccer field, shelters and fencing. A walking trail will be considered.

The County Commission maintains several boat ramps and public access easements along the Altamaha River. This river serves as a major form of tourism and recreation in the county. Therefore, the County Commission must do whatever possible to renovate these facilities so that they present a good image to visitors to the county and provide a high level of service to the residents of the county.

Hospitals and Other Public Health Facilities

In general, current public facilities and private hospitals are adequate to meet the current and projected needs of Long County. While population growth is projected to increase, the combined effects of population growth in neighboring counties and an aging population may put stress on the existing system.

The county will need to encourage the development of extended care facilities to meet the future needs of its aging population as well as continuing the support it offers senior to aid them in living independently. The Coastal Manor Center has been operating at or near capacity and with the number of residents 65 years or age or higher projected to increase by 36%, additional facilities will be needed.

Educational Facilities

Long County's educational facilities meet the current needs for housing the students enrolled in the school system. Population growth of younger school age children is projected to increase through the planning period, signaling the need for additional facilities.

Because population growth, including among lower age groups, is projected to be relatively large, future impacts on the public school system must be monitored to determine the ability of existing facilities to accommodate any rise in enrollment above projected levels.

Bus routes will be planned in compliance to road suitability and public safety. Road improvements will coincide with necessary bussing access routes.

Libraries and Other Cultural Facilities

The library system possesses approximately 286,436 volumes, which is equal to 2.94 volumes per capita. The Georgia Public Library System has adopted standardized recommendations for libraries based on population size they are serving. For communities under 20,000 the basic level of service is 4 volumes per capita. Based on this standard, the Long County Library is operating below acceptable standards.

The library facility itself is in excellent condition and is well maintained. The space available for various collections is adequate for the current population and the relatively small growth that is projected through the planning period.

Long County would like to renovate the train depot that once served as City Hall for Ludowici. The renovated depot would provide Chamber of Commerce office

space, as well as another avenue for heritage tourism, a museum, and a community facility.

5.3.0.0: Goals & Implementation

Goals and Policies

Long County is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of residents by considered support of public safety agencies, transportation networks, and community facilities.

Transportation Network

Long County will continue to provide public transportation support to residents. In addition, the county will continue to pursue the paving of county roads with appropriate signage.

Goal 1: Upgrade and expand existing transportation facilities, as needed, to accommodate future growth in the most efficient manner.

Policy 1-1: Support the regional efforts of the Hinesville Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Policy 1-2: Request funds from GDOT to construct a railroad overpass in Ludowici.

Policy 1-3: Continue to make every effort to keep county roads, bridges, and right-of-ways free of litter and debris.

Policy 1-4: Continue to coordinate with state and federal highway agencies to accommodate the projects planned in Long County area.

Policy 1-5: Continue to apply for government assistance for targeted public infrastructure investments that will forward economic development, maximize returns on investments, and improve facility services.

Policy 1-6: Renovate and expand existing County Roads Department Barn.

Goal 2: Improve the mobility of pedestrians and bicyclists throughout the county.

Policy 2-1: Encourage sidewalks as part of new development.

Policy 2-2: Encourage GDOT to add bike lanes and sidewalks as part of resurfacing or new construction in appropriate areas along state highways.

Water Supply and Treatment

Long County will review regulations to provide comprehensive inspection of well placement in new construction sites.

Goal 1: Provide service to citizens in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

Policy 1-1: Invest in new infrastructure as needed to ensure the continued provision of an adequate level of service.

Policy 1-2: Upgrade water infrastructure.

Policy 1-3: Continue to coordinate with state and federal authorities to implement all applicable potable water and wastewater quality requirements, and soil erosion and sedimentation control regulations.

Policy 1-4: Actively plan and program the provision of potable water service to growth areas of the county.

Goal 2: Coordinate new development with the availability of adequate water service.

Policy 2-1: Upgrade water infrastructure

Policy 2-2: Maximize the use of existing infrastructure for water service.

Sewerage System and Wastewater Treatment

Long County is committed to ensuring the interests of public safety through wise management practices. One method to ensure public safety is the pursuit of comprehensive inspections of septic tank systems during installation and throughout the life of the system.

Goal 1: Provide service to citizens in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

Policy 1-1: Actively plan and program the provision of public Sewer treatment service to high growth areas of the county.

Goal 2: Consider developing monitoring and maintenance regulations for septic tank systems.

Solid Waste Management

There is no need for Long County to develop a landfill within the county during the planning period. However, Long County is committed to ensuring the needs of residents are met through careful consideration of Solid Waste Management efforts. These efforts may include reviewing the need and feasibility of a community recycling program.

Goal 1: Provide service to citizens in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

Policy 1-1: Continue to maintain and purchase solid waste equipment needed to properly operate solid waste collection efforts.

Policy 1-2: Continue to identify viable collection efforts and implement efficiency programs when feasible.

Policy 1-3: Evaluate collection efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new collection mechanisms are feasible.

Goal 2: Ensure that disposal facilities in the county meet regulatory requirements and can continue to support and facilitate effective solid waste handling programs.

Policy 2-1: Increase education and awareness of recycling programs and opportunities for paper and organic waste materials

Policy 2-2: Encourage waste reduction programs.

Policy 2-3: Participate in the Keep Georgia Beautiful Campaign.

Policy 2-4: Work with the State's Recycling Coordinator to identify viable recycling projects in the county in coming years.

Policy 2-5: Continue to adhere to the goals, policies, and objectives of the Solid Waste Management Plan for Long County.

General Government Goals

Long County will periodically review the ability of the government to provide for the needs and requests of residents. To that end, the following policies will be enacted:

Goal 1: Provide adequate space, equipment, and technology to elected officials and staff.

Policy 1-1: Expand any needed space for government offices.

Public Safety

Long County is committed to providing all county residents with the best possible police and fire protection. To ensure the safety of Long County residents, Long County will periodically assess the ability of current public safety agencies to respond to the needs of residents.

Goal 1: Continue investing in the public safety agencies to maintain an adequate level of service.

Policy 1-1: Build new Fire Station in Donald Community

Policy 1-2: Renovate Fire Stations as necessary.

Policy 1-3: Purchase fire and EMS equipment and vehicles

Policy 1-4: Purchase Law Enforcement equipment and vehicles as necessary.

Policy 1-5: Consider funding sources to construct and administer a county jail.

Goal 2: Provide services to citizens in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

Policy 2-1: Consider consolidation services to better serve the public.

Policy 2-2: Coordinate water and transportation infrastructure improvements with fire protection agencies to ensure that adequate fire protection can be maintained in all new developments.

Recreation Facilities

Long County will listen and respond to resident desires for recreation facilities.

Goal 1: Provide services to citizens in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

Policy 1-1: Plan and program existing recreational facility improvements, new facilities, and programs in accordance with the needs and preferences of all county residents.

Policy 1-2: Pursue State and Federal grant assistance for existing recreational improvements, new facilities, and programs in the county.

Policy 1-3: Coordinate public park expansion with local law enforcement agencies to ensure that they are adequately protected.

Policy 1-4: Consider construction of a Teen Center.

Policy 1-5: Construct a walking trail.

Hospitals and Other Public Health Facilities

Long County is committed to improving emergency medical services whenever the means are available. Long County will continue to monitor population growth to assess the ability of local area medical facilities to respond to area health care needs.

Goal 1: Continue to support public and private health care providers ensuring that all of the county's needs are capably met, including all special needs communities

Policy 1-1: Assist with senior center expansion to meet the county's projected growth in the senior population

Educational Facilities

Long County is committed to improving education services whenever the means are available. Long County will continue to monitor population growth to assess the ability of school facilities to respond to area needs.

Goal 1: Coordinate facility expansion based on future population projections and local land use planning.

Policy 1-1: Facilitate school board participation in the development review process to ensure that adequate educational facilities exist to accommodate future growth

Policy 1-2: Coordinate the location of future school sites with local governments ensuring the compatibility of adjacent land uses.

Libraries and Other Cultural Facilities

Goal 1: Continued support of the public library system and other cultural facilities to ensure adequate service is provided to existing and future populations.

Policy 1-1: Continue to provide financial and human resource support to the Long County Library to meet identified needs

Goal 2: Continue to support the preservation and enhancement of cultural facilities throughout the county.

Policy 2-1: Develop a Welcome Center and Museum

Long County Community Facilities

Long: Report of Accomplishments

Community Facilities		
Activity	Status	Explanation
Place road signs at every road intersection.	Underway	
Begin local recycling program.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding.
Construct new EMS building.	Completed	
Construct large meeting facility.	Completed	
Enhance Wiregrass Trail.	Underway	
Develop Youth Center.	Not Accomplished	Funding not available.
Construct Walking Trail.	Not Accomplished	Funding not available.
Pave all county roads.	Underway	

Expand Volunteer Fire Dept. facilities.	Underway	
Upgrade facilities to meet ADA requirements.	Underway	
Re-establish Long County Community Center.	Postponed	Future project to be developed by Chamber of Commerce with Train Depot project.
Build another active recreation park in city.	Not Accomplished	Plans for a new park are underway for the northern portion of county. Park will include a soccer field.
Support development of Nursing Home facility.	Completed	
Renovate public boat ramps on Altamaha River.	Underway	
Study ways to broaden the county tax base.	Not Accomplished	To pursue as part of Regional Plan initiatives.
Expand Long County Library.	Postponed	Future project.
Construct new Senior Center.	Completed	

Short Term Work Program

Community Facilities				
Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
Support the regional efforts of the Hinesville Metropolitan Planning Organization.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	None	None
Request funds from GDOT to construct a railroad overpass in Ludowici.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	\$2,000,000	GDOT, FEMA
Continue to make every effort to keep county roads, bridges, and right-of-ways free of litter and debris.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	None	None
Continue to coordinate with state and federal highway agencies to accommodate the projects planned in Long County area.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County in cooperation with GDOT	None	None

Continue to apply for government assistance for targeted public infrastructure investments that will forward economic development, maximize returns on investments, and improve facility services.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	Unknown	GDOT, ISTE A
Renovate the existing County road Barn	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	\$200,000	SPLOST
Encourage sidewalks as part of new development.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	Unknown	Developers
Encourage GDOT to add bike lanes and sidewalks as part of resurfacing or new construction in appropriate areas along state highways.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County in cooperation with GDOT	Unknown	GDOT
Invest in new infrastructure as needed to ensure the continued provision of an adequate level of service.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	Unknown	Local funds
Continue to coordinate with state and federal authorities to implement all applicable potable water and wastewater quality requirements, and soil erosion and sedimentation control regulations.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	None	None
Actively plan and program the provision of potable water service to growth areas of the county.	2005, 2006, 2009	County	None	None
Actively plan and program the provision of public sewer treatment service to high growth areas of the county.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	Unknown	Local Development Fund, Developers
Continue to maintain and purchase solid waste equipment needed to properly operate solid waste collection efforts.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	Unknown	Local funds
Continue to identify viable collection efforts and implement efficiency programs when	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	None	None

feasible.				
Evaluate collection efforts periodically to determine if changes are needed or if new collection mechanisms are feasible.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	None	None
Begin local recycling program.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2009	County	\$10,000	Local Development Fund
Build new Fire SubStation in Donald Community	2005, 2006, 2009	County	\$75,000	GDF
Purchase fire and EMS equipment and vehicles	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	\$75,000	GEMA, Office of Homeland Security
Purchase Law Enforcement equipment and vehicles as necessary.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	Unknown	Local funds
Construct and administer county jail facility.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	\$1,00,000	Unknown
Plan and program existing recreational facility improvements, new facilities, and programs in accordance with the needs and preferences of all county residents.	2005, 2006, 2008, 2009	County	Unknown	None
Consider construction of a Teen Center.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	\$100,000	CDGB
Construct a walking trail.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	\$10,000	RAF
Pave county roads.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	\$220,000	SPLOST, LARP
Improve road signage.	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009	County	\$75,000	GDOT